# Colour, size and nationality

## Introduction



**Their house is red.**

## Definition

**Adjectives describe nouns.**

## Construction

1. **Before a noun: It's a blue car.**
2. **After 'to be': The car is/isn't blue.**

**There isn't a plural form:**

**The cars are reds.** ✖
**The cars are red.** ✔

## Uses

**Adjectives give information about people and things. For example: colour, size and nationality.**

**It's green.**
**It's a big city.**
**They're French.**
**The river is 100km long.**

**Mont Blanc is 4,810m high.**
**She's 1.75m tall.**

# Examples



**There are two purple sofas and a pink chair.**



**Is your office big or small?**



**My boss is American and his clients are Japanese.**



**James is tall.**

# Nationality



**Prince Charles is British.**

**We use adjectives for nationality before a noun or after 'to be'.  They always begin with a capital letter.**

**I work with a Spanish man.**
**We have a Swedish manager.**

**He's French.**
**They're German.**

**We use adjectives ending in 'an' as nouns:**

**He's a German/an American/an Italian.** ✓
**He's a Swedish/a French/a Japanese.** ✗

**For the nouns of nationalities ending with -ese, -ish, or -ch, we can use 'the' to talk about the whole population.**

**The English often take their holidays in France.**

**For nationalities ending with -n, generally no article is necessary.**

**Americans are friendly.**

**Here are some examples with their countries:**

| Ending | Country | Nationality | Nouns |
|---|---|---|---|
| 'an' | Angola | Angolan | an Angolan (person) |
| | Australia | Australian | an Australian (person) |
| | Belgium | Belgian | a Belgian (person) |
| | Canada | Canadian | a Canadian (person) |
| | Egypt | Egyptian | an Egyptian (person) |
| | Germany | German | a German (person) |
| | India | Indian | an Indian (person) |
| | Italy | Italian | an Italian (person) |
| | Korea | Korean | a Korean (person) |
| | Latvia | Latvian | a Latvian (person) |
| | Mexico | Mexican | a Mexican (person) |
| | Norway | Norwegian | a Norwegian (person) |
| | Peru | Peruvian | a Peruvian (person) |
| | USA | American | an American (person) |
| 'ish' | Denmark | Danish | a Danish person; a Dane |
| | England | English | a n English person; an Englishman [not |
| | Finland | Finnish | 'Englishwoman'] |
| | Poland | Polish | a Finnish person; a Finn |
| | Scotland | Scottish | a Polish person; a Pole |
| | Spain | Spanish | a Scottish person; a Scot |
| | Sweden | Swedish | a Spanish person; a Spaniard |
| | UK | British | a Swedish person; a Swede |
| | | | a British person |
| 'ese' | Burma | Burmese | a Burmese person |
| | China | Chinese | a Chinese person |
| | Japan | Japanese | a Japanese person |
| | Malta | Maltese | a Maltese person |
| | Nepal | Nepalese | a Nepalese person |
| | Portugal | Portuguese | a Portuguese person |
| | Senegal | Senegalese | a Senegalese person |
| | Vietnam | Vietnamese | a Vietnamese person |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Other** | **France** | **French** | **a French person** |
| | **Greece** | **Greek** | **a Greek person; a Greek** |
| | **Iceland** | **Icelandic** | **an Icelandic person** |
| | **Iraq** | **Iraqi** | **an Iraqi person; an Iraqi** |
| | **Pakistan** | **Pakistani** | **a Pakistani person; a Pakistani** |
| | **Switzerland** | **Swiss** | **a Swiss person; a Swiss** |
| | **Wales** | **Welsh** | **a Welsh person** |

**Note that 'person' can also be 'man', 'woman', 'child', 'friend', 'colleague', 'manager' etc.**

## Examples:



**This is the Irish flag.**



**I like Italian ice-cream.**



**Emily is English. Her friend, Karine, is French.**



**Andrew is a Swede. Tomoko is a Japanese visitor.**

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